1:Spier E-5 (1929-1932) 1933 NT15 River Yumans NT15
Maricopa

to set on the sloping walls. In localities where sand blew about, 342
the houses soon became drifted over and resembled sand dunes.

The entrance invariably faced the east. It made no difference what was the nature of the terrain about the house site, this was its invariable orientation. This, rationalization had it, was be- [773]
cause the culture hero had built the first house in this fashion. As a matter of fact, as Russell remarks of the Pima living but a [132]
few miles away in the same sandy waste:

> A more practical motive for placing the doors on the east side is to avoid the southwest winds which blow in the afternoon during nearly the entire year and which are especially strong during the month of March. The wind usually begins to blow at about 10 in the morning and increases to a velocity of 10 miles an hour by mid-afternoon, after which it decreases until midnight.[1]

So strong is the old habit of orientation that of sixteen present-day houses counted on the reservation (mostly of the jacal type), only four faced other than due east, and of these four, three are modern frame houses.

The doorway was narrow and low; so low that one had to stoop to enter (about three feet high or little more). As most [354]
houses, at least the smaller ones, had no smoke-hole, this was the only egress for smoke. They must have been densely filled with smoke except for a few feet above the floor.

The doorway of most houses was left unprotected, but those who were more particular built a sort of porch. Two forked posts were erected immediately in front of the entrance but on either side, and a stringer was laid between them. Bundles of arrow-weeds were placed from this stringer to the sloping wall above the entrance and others were set upright on each side between post and wall. Dirt was spread on top of this entry.

A door was made by hanging a thick willow bark or rabbit [287] ●
skin blanket in the opening. It was let down at night and in the [281]
morning thrown back over the house. More recently a door was made of parallel bundles of wheat straw lashed to willow poles at each end and in the middle. Not every house had a door.

The interior arrangement of the house was simple: there were 352
neither partitions nor furniture. The fire was in the center, un- [354]

[1] *Pima Indians*, p. 154.